

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Labor Market Information

INSIDE . . .

Cumberland County recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 3.3 percent page 3

Adjusted statewide unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.9 percent page 4

Nonfarm employment increased by 3,500 over the year page 6

A publication of the

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Labor Market
Information Services

John Dorrer
Division Director

Dana A. Evans
Editor

The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity employment and programs. Auxiliary aids and services provided upon request to individuals with disabilities.

For more information,

Telephone (207) 287-2271
FAX (207) 287-2947
TTY 1-800-794-1110
E-Mail: Imi.me@Maine.gov

Visit our Home Page at
www.Maine.gov/labor/Imis

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

March Data

May 2004

Personal Income in Maine Rises in 2003

Total Personal Income

Total personal income in Maine increased 3.7 percent between 2002 and 2003 to \$37.6 billion. This compares to a national growth rate of 3.4 percent and a New England gain of 2.5 percent. Personal income is the sum of income received from earnings from work; dividends, interest, and rent; and transfer payments. Faster income growth in Maine was due to faster growth in earnings from work and transfer payments.

Earnings from work, which are the largest source of personal income, increased 3.8 percent in Maine between 2002 and 2003. Most major industry divisions registered total earnings increases, with the fastest rate of growth recorded by construction at 9.7 percent. Financial activity workers were second with an increase in earnings of 5.3 percent. Earnings dropped in durable goods manufacturing (-0.7 percent) and professional and business services (-0.6 percent).

Per Capita Personal Income

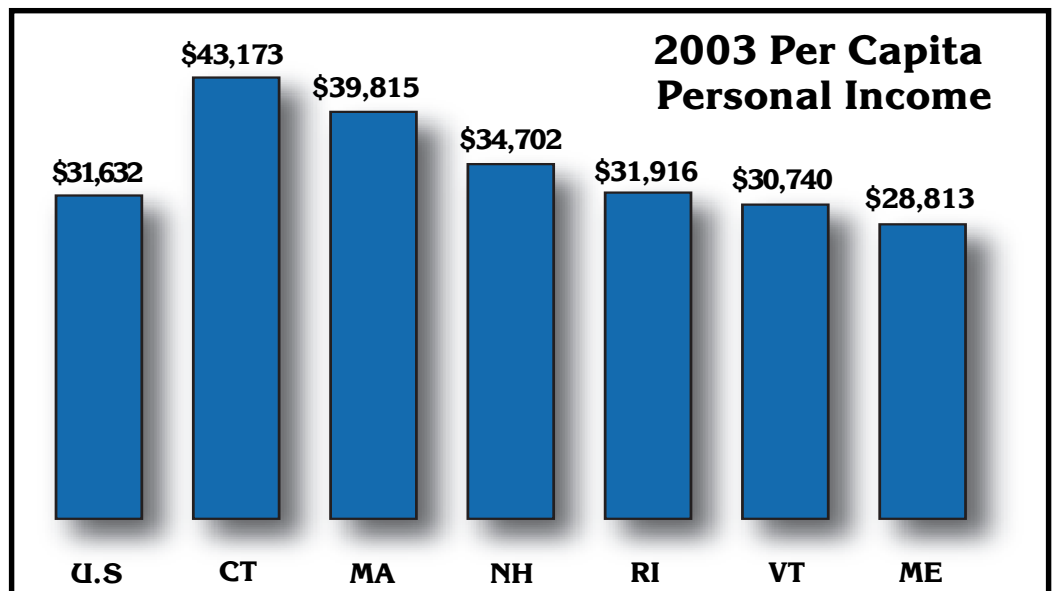
Per capita personal income equals total personal income divided by the total population.

Per capita personal income in Maine rose 2.8 percent between 2002 and 2003 to \$28,831.

This was the 21st highest rate of increase among the 50 states, and was above the national growth rate of 2.3 percent.

The Maine 2003 per capita personal income was the 34th highest of all states compared to 32nd in 2002.

Maine per capita personal income stood at 91 percent of the national average in 2003. Per capita personal income in the other New England states ranged from 97 percent of the national average in Vermont to 136 percent in Connecticut.



Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed by Labor Market Area, Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ¹			EMPLOYED ²			UNEMPLOYED ³			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ⁴		
	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03
LABOR MARKET AREAS												
Augusta	46,600	46,420	46,200	43,850	43,600	43,730	2,750	2,830	2,470	5.9%	6.1%	5.3%
Bangor MSA	54,800	55,200	54,200	52,500	52,800	52,200	2,300	2,300	1,900	4.2	4.2	3.6
Bath-Brunswick	34,670	34,630	33,870	33,130	33,060	32,330	1,540	1,570	1,540	4.5	4.5	4.5
Belfast	17,860	17,860	17,700	16,830	16,830	16,620	1,040	1,030	1,090	5.8	5.8	6.1
Biddeford	40,560	40,470	40,110	38,650	38,430	38,210	1,910	2,040	1,890	4.7	5.0	4.7
Boothbay Harbor	8,600	8,500	8,590	8,250	8,150	8,210	360	350	380	4.2	4.2	4.4
Bucksport	4,930	4,930	4,790	4,530	4,510	4,510	410	420	290	8.2	8.4	6.0
Calais	4,970	5,010	4,960	4,270	4,280	4,290	700	730	680	14.2	14.6	13.6
Dexter-Pittsfield	12,170	12,070	12,150	10,720	10,580	10,760	1,460	1,490	1,400	12.0	12.3	11.5
Dover-Foxcroft	6,980	6,930	7,040	6,400	6,350	6,400	580	590	640	8.4	8.5	9.1
Ellsworth-Bar Harbor	19,310	19,230	19,200	17,450	17,300	17,440	1,860	1,940	1,750	9.6	10.1	9.1
Farmington	17,970	17,850	17,760	16,810	16,670	16,650	1,160	1,180	1,110	6.4	6.6	6.3
Fort Kent	4,100	4,170	3,960	3,750	3,820	3,700	350	340	260	8.6	8.2	6.6
Greenville	960	990	980	890	920	890	70	70	90	7.6	7.5	9.2
Houlton	6,360	6,300	6,410	5,980	5,910	6,070	380	390	340	5.9	6.2	5.3
Jonesport-Milbridge	3,920	3,850	4,180	3,430	3,360	3,660	490	500	520	12.4	12.9	12.4
Kittery-York ⁵	22,430	22,700	22,480	21,720	21,820	21,370	710	880	1,110	3.1	3.9	4.9
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	55,300	55,500	54,800	52,700	52,700	52,100	2,600	2,700	2,800	4.7	4.9	5.0
Lincoln-Howland	5,900	5,900	6,100	4,970	4,930	5,550	930	970	550	15.8	16.5	9.1
Machias-Eastport	6,360	6,230	6,530	5,750	5,640	5,750	600	600	780	9.5	9.6	11.9
Madawaska	3,570	3,540	3,580	3,350	3,310	3,430	220	230	150	6.2	6.4	4.2
Millinocket-East Millinocket	4,250	4,340	4,560	3,420	3,450	2,960	830	890	1,600	19.5	20.5	35.1
Norway-Paris	11,830	11,870	11,890	10,830	10,870	11,030	1,000	1,000	860	8.5	8.4	7.2
Outer Bangor	10,180	10,110	9,710	9,450	9,360	9,140	730	750	570	7.2	7.4	5.9
Patten-Island Falls	1,780	1,780	1,740	1,630	1,590	1,550	150	180	200	8.5	10.3	11.2
Portland MSA	141,300	141,800	139,300	136,700	137,200	135,000	4,500	4,600	4,300	3.2	3.3	3.1
Presque Isle-Caribou	21,040	20,640	20,670	19,730	19,310	19,580	1,310	1,330	1,090	6.2	6.4	5.3
Rockland	23,290	23,100	23,390	22,220	22,010	22,150	1,070	1,090	1,240	4.6	4.7	5.3
Rumford	10,690	10,810	10,470	9,970	10,080	9,780	710	730	690	6.7	6.7	6.6
Sanford	21,980	22,090	22,980	20,400	20,340	20,820	1,580	1,760	2,160	7.2	7.9	9.4
Sebago Lakes Region	13,390	13,470	13,350	12,620	12,600	12,620	770	870	730	5.7	6.4	5.5
Skowhegan	15,380	15,320	15,770	13,890	13,830	14,280	1,490	1,490	1,490	9.7	9.7	9.4
Stonington	5,700	5,630	5,630	5,390	5,340	5,370	300	290	270	5.3	5.2	4.7
Van Buren	1,410	1,380	1,410	1,320	1,270	1,320	100	110	100	6.7	7.9	6.7
Waterville	24,730	24,630	24,350	23,000	22,900	22,550	1,730	1,730	1,800	7.0	7.0	7.4
MAINE	685,200	685,200	680,800	646,500	645,100	642,000	38,700	40,100	38,800	5.6	5.8	5.7
UNITED STATES (000)	146,525	146,154	148,801	137,691	137,384	136,783	8,834	8,770	9,018	6.0	6.0	6.2

¹ Civilian labor force, employed, and unemployed estimates are by place of residence. Current month estimates are preliminary; prior month and year-ago estimates are revised. Items may not add due to rounding. All data exclude members of the Armed Forces. MSA stands for Metropolitan Statistical Area.

² Total employment includes nonfarm wage and salary workers, agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics, the self employed, and workers involved in labor disputes.

³ People are classified as unemployed, regardless of their eligibility for unemployment benefits or public assistance, if they meet all of the following criteria: 1) they were not employed during the survey week; 2) they were available for work at that time; and 3) they made specific efforts to find employment some time during the prior four weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed.

⁴ The unemployment rate is calculated by dividing the total number of unemployed by the total civilian labor force and is expressed as a percent.

⁵ Kittery-York is the five-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Rochester PMSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.

Source: Maine Department of Labor, Labor Market Information Services, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed by County, Not Seasonally Adjusted¹

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03
COUNTY												
Androscoggin	62,220	62,390	61,770	59,190	59,200	58,530	3,030	3,190	3,240	4.9%	5.1%	5.2%
Aroostook	37,860	37,400	37,350	35,340	34,820	35,240	2,520	2,580	2,110	6.7	6.9	5.7
Cumberland	147,190	147,650	145,010	142,300	142,630	140,380	4,890	5,020	4,630	3.3	3.4	3.2
Franklin	15,030	14,920	14,820	14,120	14,010	13,980	910	910	840	6.0	6.1	5.6
Hancock	27,300	27,180	27,030	24,970	24,760	24,920	2,330	2,420	2,110	8.5	8.9	7.8
Kennebec	60,660	60,400	60,010	57,010	56,710	56,570	3,650	3,690	3,440	6.0	6.1	5.7
Knox	20,780	20,610	20,860	19,820	19,630	19,760	960	980	1,100	4.6	4.7	5.3
Lincoln	17,180	17,060	17,150	16,390	16,250	16,270	790	810	880	4.6	4.7	5.1
Oxford	27,100	27,300	26,900	25,090	25,220	25,070	2,010	2,090	1,830	7.4	7.6	6.8
Penobscot	81,650	81,960	81,040	76,130	76,240	75,660	5,510	5,720	5,370	6.8	7.0	6.6
Piscataquis	8,060	8,040	8,160	7,400	7,370	7,410	660	670	750	8.2	8.4	9.2
Sagadahoc	15,760	15,720	15,340	15,010	14,980	14,650	740	740	690	4.7	4.7	4.5
Somerset	24,920	24,790	25,230	22,390	22,250	22,730	2,530	2,540	2,500	10.1	10.2	9.9
Waldo	23,460	23,460	23,230	21,970	21,970	21,710	1,490	1,500	1,520	6.4	6.4	6.6
Washington	15,620	15,470	16,050	13,800	13,610	14,040	1,820	1,860	2,010	11.7	12.0	12.5
York	100,480	100,830	100,850	95,620	95,480	95,080	4,860	5,350	5,760	4.8	5.3	5.7
MAINE	685,200	685,200	680,800	646,500	645,100	642,000	38,700	40,100	38,800	5.6	5.8	5.7
UNITED STATES (000)	146,525	146,154	145,801	137,691	137,384	136,783	8,834	8,770	9,018	6.0	6.0	6.2

¹ See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

Area Analyst's Corner

Central Maine

Ken Bridges (207) 624-5199

Retailers in the mid-coast region are starting **summer seasonal hiring**. ♦New businesses in the Belfast area include **On the River** restaurant, **Curves** fitness center, and **Ace Hardware Store**. ♦In Augusta, call center **TelAc** has hired the first 100 workers and expects to eventually employ up to 300 workers. ♦**Maine-General Hospital** has proposed closing two hospitals, one in Waterville and one in Augusta, and consolidating into a proposed new facility in Sidney. ♦In Gardiner, construction of a new **Pine State Vending** warehouse is complete. The company is transferring its beverage division from its Augusta warehouses to Gardiner.

Western Maine

Gerard Dennison (207) 753-9045

Wal-Mart will build two huge distribution warehouses worth \$80 million in **Lewiston**: **Phase One** calls for the building of a \$20.5 million refrigerated **food distribution center** with \$25 million in equipment that will employ 350 when it opens in August 2005. **Phase Two** calls for the construction of a \$20 million **dry goods warehouse** to begin second right after the opening of the food center. The building has an estimated equipment value of \$15 million and will provide 200-400 jobs when it opens in 2007. A total of about 600 construction workers may be employed from April 2005 to 2007 at the 130-acre site near Alfred Plourde Parkway.

North/East Maine

Craig Holland (207) 941-3076

First Technologies Control Devices will close its Caribou facility. The company, which is a manufacturer of electronic components, sensors, and circuit breakers, employs approximately 60 workers who will be laid off in stages through the end of the year. ♦In Bangor, two national restaurant chains, **Chili's** and **Smokey Bones Barbeque**, will break ground on new facilities and combined employ approximately 120 area workers. ♦In the Bangor Mall, **Dick's Sporting Goods**, another major national chain, will occupy the anchor position vacant since the closure of Porteous last year. Renovations are expected to be completed this month.

Southern Maine

Glenn Mills (207) 287-2859

McClain Marketing Group, based in Portland, won six awards at the recent 2004 Service Industry Advertising Awards competition. The categories included logo development, video production, and recruitment magazine advertising. ♦University of Southern Maine engineering students, Jonathan Wappel and Joshua Heckman, won the \$10,000 **School of Business Award** for their proposal for a line of high-resolution data-collection and control devices for mapping surfaces. Their first product, **Perfect Ice System**, will ensure level surfaces for the ice arena industry. ♦**Imagistics International**, with offices in Portland and Bangor, has been awarded a five-year contract to install and maintain copiers and imaging machines throughout the University of Maine system.

Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed in Maine, Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

ITEM	2004			2003									
	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar
Civilian Labor Force	693.7	698.1	699.0	699.4	697.9	696.0	696.6	695.6	693.8	691.3	690.9	690.1	689.0
Employed	659.7	663.7	665.4	663.2	662.0	659.9	660.4	660.0	658.3	656.6	656.4	655.4	655.0
Unemployed	33.9	34.4	33.7	36.2	35.9	36.2	36.1	35.7	35.5	34.6	34.4	34.7	34.0
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.9	4.9	4.8	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9

¹ See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in Maine, Seasonally Adjusted¹ (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	2004			2003									
	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment ²	607.3	607.3	607.7	609.1	608.0	607.2	607.0	607.0	605.9	603.9	604.5	603.8	604.9
Construction	30.9	30.9	31.1	31.2	31.1	30.8	30.6	30.6	30.6	30.6	30.4	30.0	30.1
Manufacturing	61.1	61.2	62.1	63.0	63.5	63.4	63.1	63.2	63.4	63.3	63.8	63.8	64.4
Trade, Transportation and Public Utilities	123.8	123.9	123.7	124.7	124.3	123.8	123.2	123.6	122.9	122.7	123.0	122.5	122.7
Professional and Business Services	49.8	50.2	50.8	51.3	51.5	51.5	51.0	50.7	50.3	49.8	50.1	50.2	50.5
Educational and Health Services	108.1	107.9	107.7	107.5	107.8	107.3	107.5	107.2	107.2	106.6	106.4	106.4	106.3
Leisure and Hospitality Services	59.2	59.4	59.2	59.1	58.2	58.7	58.2	58.5	58.4	57.9	58.3	57.8	58.1
Government	103.7	103.8	104.1	103.8	103.5	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.6	103.4	103.2	103.6	103.6

¹ See footnotes 1 and 2 on page 7. ²The nonfarm wage and salary estimate is seasonally adjusted independently. Not all supersectors are seasonally adjusted. Natural resources, information, financial activities, and other services are not suitable for seasonal adjustment because they have very little seasonal and irregular movement. Source: see page 2.

Maine Unemployment Rate 4.9 Percent in March

State Labor Commissioner Laura Fortman announced that the seasonally-adjusted March unemployment rate for Maine was 4.9 percent, unchanged from last month and March 2003. The Maine unemployment rate remained below the national March rate of 5.7 percent.

“Labor market conditions in Maine were unchanged between February and March,” said Commissioner Fortman. “The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 4.9 percent and the number of nonfarm wage and salary jobs remained at 607,300.”

Between March 2003 and March 2004, seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs rose by 2,400 to 607,300. Job gains were recorded in health care and social assistance, retail trade, other services, construction, and leisure and hospitality services. Partly offsetting the job gains, losses were recorded primarily in the manufacturing sector, with the largest declines in paper, textiles, and computers and electronic equipment.

Other New England states reporting their seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for March include Vermont, 3.6 percent; New Hampshire, 4.0 percent; Massachusetts, 5.1 percent; and Rhode Island, 5.6 percent. The adjusted national rate for March was 5.7

percent, up from 5.6 percent in February and down from 5.8 percent for March 2003.

The not-seasonally-adjusted Maine unemployment rate for March was 5.6 percent, down from 5.8 percent for February and 5.7 percent for March 2003. The unadjusted national rate was 6.0 percent for March, unchanged from February and down from 6.2 percent in March 2003. Not-seasonally-adjusted March unemployment rates for Maine counties ranged from 3.3 percent in Cumberland County to 11.7 percent in Washington County.

Not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs in Maine rose by 2,500 between February and March to 591,300. Gains were recorded in food services and drinking places, local government, construction, health care and social assistance, and educational services.

Between March 2003 and March 2004, not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs rose by 3,500. Job gains were recorded in health care and social assistance, retail trade, other services, construction, and food services and drinking places. Losses were registered primarily in manufacturing, with the largest declines in paper, textiles, and computers and electronic equipment.

Selected Regular Unemployment Compensation Program Indicators

Key Data	Mar 2004	Feb 2004	Mar 2003
Average Duration	17.7	18.0	17.4
Average Weekly Benefit Amount*	\$233.99	\$232.95	\$227.15
Exhaustees	1,400	880	1,288

* For totally unemployed claimants, excluding dependency allowances.

Weekly Initial Claims

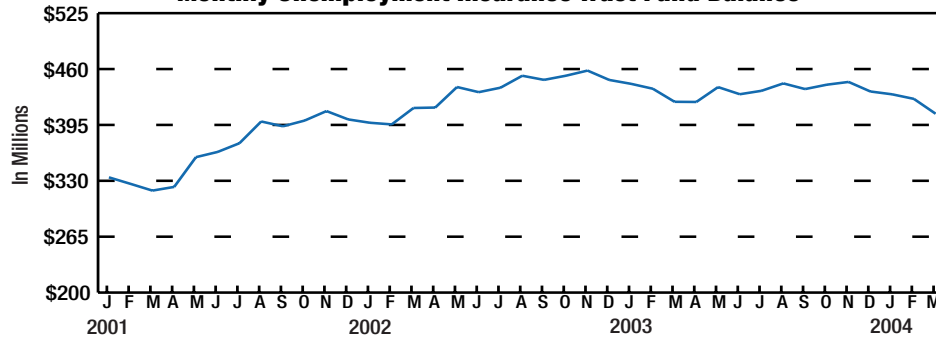
Week	4/17	4/10	4/3	3/27	3/20	3/13	3/6
2004	1,202	1,498	1,694	1,169	1,335	1,217	1,057
Week	4/19	4/12	4/5	3/29	3/22	3/15	3/8
2003	1,315	1,462	1,835	1,520	1,267	1,393	1,113

Continued Claims Less Partial*

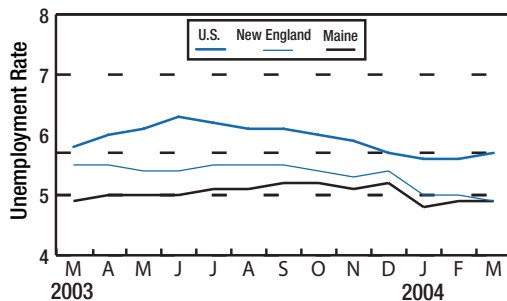
Mar 2004	Feb 2004	Mar 2003
13,514	14,127	15,374

* For the week including the 12th of the month.

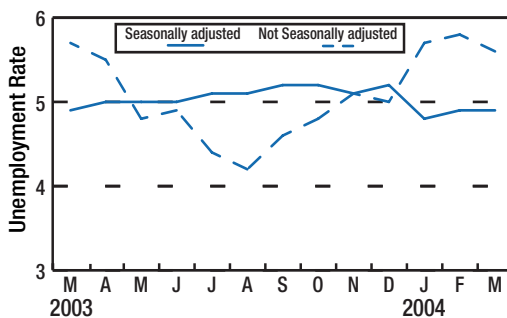
Monthly Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Balance



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted



Unemployment Rates for Maine

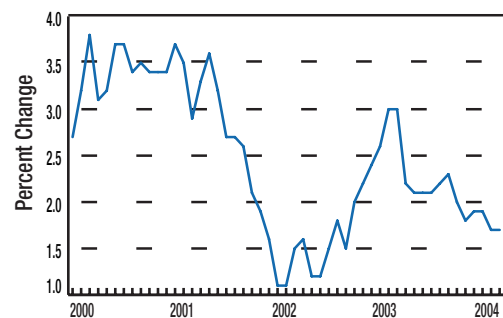


U.S. Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U)

Item	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03	Dec 03
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items	187.4	186.2	184.2	184.3

Percent Change from Prior Month	+0.6%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+1.7%
Percent change from Last December	+1.7%

Over-the-Year Change in CPI-U



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment, Not Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	MAINE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment	591.3	588.8	587.8	153.8	153.0	153.0	46.3	46.1	46.2
Total Private	483.8	481.8	480.8	133.0	132.1	132.1	40.6	40.4	40.6
Goods Producing	90.7	90.4	92.6	18.6	18.5	18.6	8.5	8.4	8.7
Natural Resources and Mining	2.7	2.7	2.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Logging	2.6	2.6	2.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	27.5	27.1	26.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction of Buildings	7.7	7.7	7.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Heavy and Civil Engineering Const.	3.0	2.9	3.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Specialty Trade Contractors	16.8	16.5	15.9	*	*	*	*	*	*
Manufacturing	60.5	60.6	63.5	10.7	10.7	11.0	6.2	6.1	6.4
Durable Goods	32.5	32.6	33.9	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wood Product Manufacturing	6.2	6.1	6.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg.	3.9	3.9	4.3	2.4	2.4	2.5	*	*	*
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	10.1	10.2	10.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nondurable Goods	28.0	28.0	29.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Leather and Allied Product Mfg.	2.3	2.4	2.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Paper Manufacturing	9.4	9.4	10.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Service-Providing	500.6	498.4	495.2	135.2	134.5	134.4	37.8	37.7	37.5
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	118.6	118.5	116.8	32.7	32.5	32.4	9.1	9.2	9.3
Wholesale Trade	20.6	20.6	20.3	7.3	7.3	7.2	1.3	1.3	1.4
Retail Trade	81.9	81.9	80.4	20.6	20.3	20.3	6.5	6.6	6.5
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	10.0	10.0	10.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food and Beverage Stores	18.9	18.7	18.3	4.5	4.5	4.4	*	*	*
General Merchandise Stores	10.8	10.7	10.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nonstore Retailers	7.2	7.4	7.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	16.1	16.0	16.1	4.8	4.9	4.9	1.3	1.3	1.4
Utilities	2.1	1.9	2.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation and Warehousing	14.0	14.1	14.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Information	11.1	11.1	11.3	4.2	4.2	4.2	0.7	0.7	0.7
Publishing Industries	3.5	3.5	3.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Financial Activities	34.6	34.6	34.9	13.9	13.9	14.3	3.1	3.0	3.0
Finance and Insurance	28.1	28.1	28.4	11.6	11.6	11.9	*	*	*
Ins. Carriers & Related Activities	12.6	12.7	12.9	*	*	*	*	*	*
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	6.5	6.5	6.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Professional and Business Services	49.1	48.8	49.3	18.4	18.2	18.8	5.6	5.6	5.6
Prof., Scientific, & Technical Svcs.	22.5	22.3	22.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	5.7	5.6	6.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Admin. & Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	20.9	20.9	21.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Education and Health Services	108.8	108.3	107.0	26.4	26.2	25.2	9.0	9.0	8.8
Educational Services	18.7	18.5	18.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Health Care and Social Assistance	90.1	89.8	88.4	23.0	22.8	22.4	*	*	*
Ambulatory Health Care Services	23.6	23.6	23.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hospitals	27.0	26.7	25.9	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nursing and Residential Care	22.9	22.9	22.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Social Assistance	16.6	16.6	16.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Leisure and Hospitality	49.6	48.8	48.7	12.9	12.8	13.1	3.2	3.1	3.1
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7.7	7.7	7.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Accommodation and Food Services	41.9	41.1	41.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Accommodation	7.1	6.9	7.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food Services and Drinking Places	34.8	34.2	34.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Services	21.3	21.3	20.2	5.9	5.8	5.5	1.4	1.4	1.4
Repair and Maintenance	5.3	5.3	5.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Government	107.5	107.0	107.0	20.8	20.9	20.9	5.7	5.7	5.6
Federal	14.4	14.4	14.1	2.2	2.2	2.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
State	29.2	29.2	28.9	5.5	5.6	5.7	1.0	1.0	0.9
Local ²	63.9	63.4	64.0	13.1	13.1	12.9	4.4	4.4	4.4

Footnotes: See page 7.

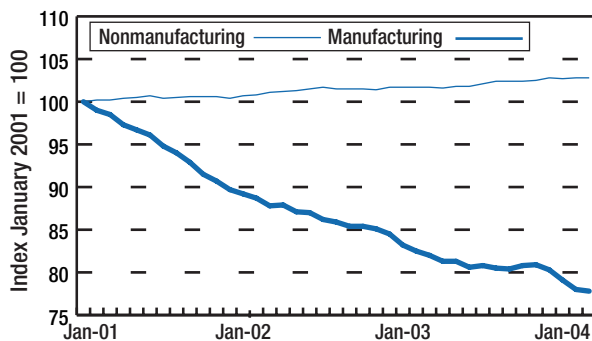
Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries¹ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03	Mar 04	Feb 04	Mar 03	2003	2002	2001
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	658.94	658.77	642.00	39.6	39.4	40.0	16.64	16.72	16.05	\$16.28	\$15.55	\$14.71
Durable Goods	653.33	646.62	632.02	39.5	39.0	39.7	16.54	16.58	15.92	16.24	15.34	14.50
Nondurable Goods	666.65	672.71	652.05	39.8	39.9	40.3	16.75	16.86	16.18	16.31	15.75	14.92
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	548.23	549.92	533.23	40.7	41.1	41.4	13.47	13.38	12.88	13.06	12.92	12.52

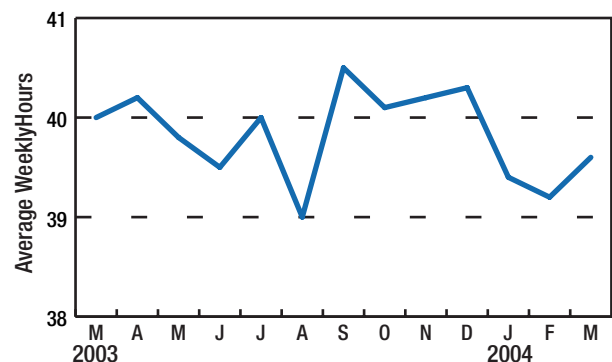
¹ Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for manufacturing production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and include such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential, as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings.

Source: See page 2.

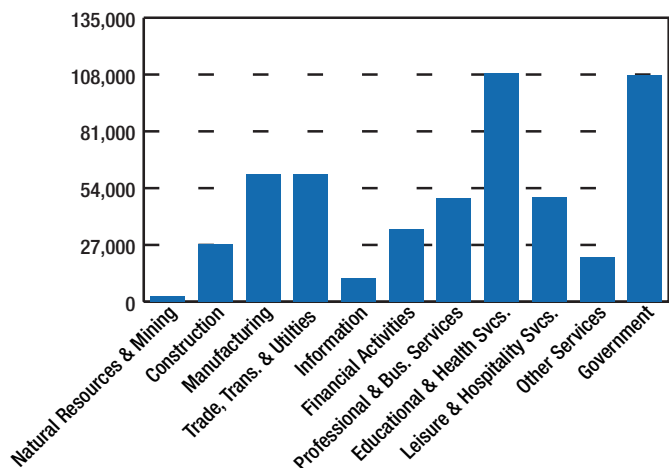
**Nonfarm Employment Trend by Sector
January 2001-March 2004¹**



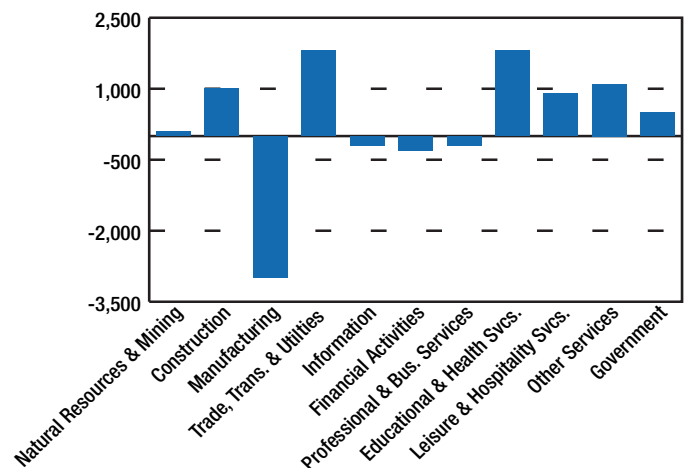
**Hours Worked by Manufacturing
Production Workers, Maine²**



**Nonfarm Employment by Industry Supersector
Maine, March 2004²**



**Nonfarm Employment by Industry Supersector
Maine, Over-the-Year Change, March 2004²**



¹ Seasonally Adjusted. ² Not Seasonally Adjusted.

Footnotes: From page 6.

¹ Nonfarm wage and salary employment estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary workers who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, the self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry. Current month's estimates are preliminary; prior month and year-ago estimates are revised. These estimates are benchmarked to March 2003. As a measure of reliability, the March 2003 benchmark revision for total nonfarm wage and salary employment was .02 percent lower than the original sample-based estimate.

² Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months.

* Where an employment estimate is not entered, either the data is not available in sufficient detail for publication or is nondisclosable by law.

Source: See page 2.

**Average Employment by Industry Sector in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick,
Quebec, and Maine in 2002 and 2003**

Industry	Jobs		% Change from Prior Year	Jobs		% Change from Prior Year
	2003	% of Total		2003	% of Total	
	Nova Scotia			New Brunswick		
Total Jobs	382,219	100.0%	3.8%	304,954	100.0%	2.1%
Natural Resources and Mining	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Utilities	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Construction	18,853	4.9%	7.1%	14,496	4.8%	9.1%
Manufacturing	42,810	11.2%	-0.6%	41,642	13.7%	-3.4%
Trade	69,033	18.1%	1.8%	50,593	16.6%	1.3%
Transportation and warehousing	15,982	4.2%	4.7%	16,722	5.5%	2.2%
Information	11,005	2.9%	-7.3%	6,801	2.2%	-1.3%
Financial Activities	21,102	5.5%	1.6%	13,989	4.6%	0.1%
Professional, scientific and technical services	12,686	3.3%	-0.1%	8,836	2.9%	-1.4%
Management of companies and enterprises	1,793	0.5%	13.8%	2,497	0.8%	3.6%
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	14,696	3.8%	7.0%	14,992	4.9%	4.5%
Educational services	28,419	7.4%	-0.2%	23,967	7.9%	4.7%
Health care and social assistance	49,110	12.8%	5.9%	35,924	11.8%	3.3%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	6,522	1.7%	13.6%	4,195	1.4%	3.7%
Accommodation and food services	34,907	9.1%	4.4%	22,221	7.3%	-1.3%
Other services	14,128	3.7%	3.6%	9,039	3.0%	-6.5%
Public administration	27,214	7.1%	5.2%	24,892	8.2%	4.6%
Unclassified businesses	7,683	2.0%	86.0%	3,062	1.0%	143.4%
Industry	Quebec			Maine		
Total Jobs	3,162,386	100.0%	2.3%	591,447	100.0%	0.1%
Natural Resources and Mining	29,333	0.9%	5.4%	5,882	1.0%	1.9%
Utilities	29,272	0.9%	8.3%	3,305	0.6%	-6.0%
Construction	136,053	4.3%	5.6%	33,442	5.7%	3.5%
Manufacturing	584,936	18.5%	0.0%	68,016	11.5%	-5.3%
Trade	565,741	17.9%	3.7%	107,002	18.1%	0.4%
Transportation and warehousing	139,392	4.4%	-2.8%	19,300	3.3%	-2.1%
Information	77,904	2.5%	1.4%	11,765	2.0%	-2.1%
Financial Activities	174,878	5.5%	2.1%	34,170	5.8%	-0.4%
Professional, scientific and technical services	147,514	4.7%	-0.3%	22,398	3.8%	-2.0%
Management of companies and enterprises	18,408	0.6%	3.6%	5,896	1.0%	-5.7%
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	129,917	4.1%	2.9%	22,993	3.9%	-0.4%
Educational services	213,523	6.8%	-0.4%	58,137	9.8%	1.1%
Health care and social assistance	322,939	10.2%	4.3%	93,427	15.8%	2.1%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	53,961	1.7%	2.3%	10,034	1.7%	3.5%
Accommodation and food services	206,982	6.5%	-1.6%	50,335	8.5%	1.6%
Other services	117,821	3.7%	6.8%	17,131	2.9%	0.4%
Public administration	188,300	6.0%	3.7%	27,871	4.7%	1.8%
Unclassified businesses	25,511	0.8%	64.2%	344	0.1%	47.0%

ND: Not disclosable — data is confidential.

Sources: Maine Dept. of Labor and Statistics Canada.

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